

Remarks

Claims 1, 10, 13-40, and 43-47 have been canceled. Claims 2-9, 11, 12, and 41 have been amended. New claims 48-54 have been added.

Support for the amendments to claim 41 and new claim 48 can be found in claim 1, as originally filed, and in the specification at least at page 22, lines 4-5 (metal surface); page 21, lines 19-24 (glass surface); page 4, lines 14-18, page 20, line 32 until page 21, line 1, and page 22, lines 5-11 (minimize attachment of cells or proteins to surface); page 12, lines 26-29 and page 9, line 31 until page 10, line 9 (ionic binding of polycationic block to a surface); and page 21, line 19 until page 22, line 30 (coating non-biological surfaces with a net anionic charge).

Claims 2-9, 11, and 12 have been amended to properly depend from claim 48.

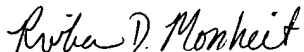
Support for new claims 49, 50, and 52 can be found in the specification at least at page 22, lines 4-5 (metal surface) and page 21, lines 19-24 (glass surface). Support for new claims 51 and 53 can be found in the specification at least at page 21, lines 19-21 and page 22, lines 14-15. Support for new claim 54 can be found in the specification at least at page 22, lines 24-25.

Applicants have revised the specification to reflect the updated priority data, to insert sequence identification references in the proper format, and to correct obvious typographical errors. Additionally, the specification has been amended at pages 3 and 5 to state that the non-tissue binding block may have a molecular weight greater than 50,000 Daltons. Support for this amendment can be found in originally filed claim 3. Applicants have presented the amended

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claims in accordance with the revised amendment practice under 37 CFR §1.121. No new matter has been added by way of this Preliminary Amendment, entry of which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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